

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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March 11, 2003

DRAFT AGENDA
161st Plenary Session
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
April 2 - April 8, 2003
Anchorage Hilton Hotel

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet April 2, through April 8, 2003 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel in Anchorage, AK. Other meetings to be held during the week are:

Committee/Panel

Advisory Panel
Scientific and Statistical Committee
Council/BOF Protocol Committee
Enforcement Committee

Beginning

8:00 am, Mon., March 31 (Dillingham/Katmai Room)
8:00 am, Mon., March 31 (King Salmon Room)
1:00 pm, Tues., April 1, 2003 (Iliamna Room)
6:30 pm, Tues., April 1, 2003 (Dillingham/Katmai Room)

The Council, SSC and AP will meet at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions of the Council. Other committee and workgroup meetings may be scheduled on short notice during the week, and will be posted at the hotel.

INFORMATION FOR PERSONS WISHING TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sign-up sheets are available at the registration table for those wishing to provide public comments on a specific agenda item. Sign-up must be completed **before** public comment begins on that agenda item. Additional names are generally not accepted **after** public comment has begun.

Submission of Written Comments. Written comments and materials to be included in Council meeting notebooks must be received at the Council office **by 5:00 pm (Alaska Time) on Wednesday March 26th**. Written and oral comments should include a statement of the source and date of information provided as well as a brief description of the background and interests of the person(s) submitting the statement. Comments can be sent by mail or fax--please **do not** submit comments by e-mail. **It is the submitter's responsibility to provide an adequate number of copies of comments after the deadline.** Materials provided **during** the meeting for distribution to Council members should be provided to the Council secretary. A minimum of **25** copies is needed to ensure that Council members, the executive director, NOAA General Counsel, appropriate staff, and the official meeting record each receive a copy. If copies are to be made available for the Advisory Panel (**28**), Scientific and Statistical Committee (**18**), or the public after the pre-meeting deadline, they must also be provided by the submitter.

FOR THOSE WISHING TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE ADVISORY PANEL

The Advisory Panel has revised its operating guidelines to incorporate a strict time management approach to its meetings. Rules for testimony before the Advisory Panel have been developed which are similar to those used by the Council. Members of the public wishing to testify before the AP **must** sign up on the list for each topic listed on the agenda. Sign-up sheets are provided in a special notebook located at the back of the room. The deadline for registering to testify is when the agenda topic comes before the AP. The time available for individual and group testimony will be based on the number registered and determined by the AP Chairman. **The AP may not take public testimony on items for which they will not be making recommendations to the Council.**

FOR THOSE WISHING TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

The usual practice is for the SSC to call for public comment immediately following the staff presentation on each agenda item. In addition, the SSC will designate a time, normally at the beginning of the afternoon session on the first day of the SSC meeting, when members of the public will have the opportunity to present testimony on any agenda item. The Committee will discourage testimony that does not directly address the technical issues of concern to the SSC, and **presentations lasting more than ten minutes will require prior approval from the Chair.**

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

ABC	Acceptable Biological Catch	MSFCMA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
AP	Advisory Panel	MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
ADFG	Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game	MRB	Maximum Retainable Bycatch
BSAI	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands	MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
CDQ	Community Development Quota	mt	Metric tons
CRP	Comprehensive Rationalization Program	NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
CVOA	Catcher Vessel Operational Area	NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Adm.
EA/RIR	Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review	NPFMC	North Pacific Fishery Management Council
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone	OY	Optimum Yield
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat	POP	Pacific ocean perch
FMP	Fishery Management Plan	PSC	Prohibited Species Catch
GHL	Guideline Harvest Level	SAFE	Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Document
GOA	Gulf of Alaska	SSC	Scientific and Statistical Committee
HAPC	Habitat Areas of Particular Concern	TAC	Total Allowable Catch
IBQ	Individual Bycatch Quota	VBA	Vessel Bycatch Accounting
IFQ	Individual Fishing Quota	VIP	Vessel Incentive Program
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission		
IRFA	Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis		
IRIU	Improved Retention/Improved Utilization		
ITAC	Initial Total Allowable Catch		
LAMP	Local Area Management Plan		
LLP	License Limitation Program		

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Estimated Hours

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- (a) Approval of Agenda

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B. REPORTS

- B-1 Executive Director's Report
B-2 NMFS Management Report
B-3 ADF&G Management Report
B-4 Coast Guard Report
B-5 USFWS Report

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(4 hrs for
A/B items)

C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

- C-1 Gulf of Alaska Rationalization
Review draft analytical outline, refine Alternatives as necessary.
- C-2 Crab Rationalization and other management issues
(a) Receive Committee reports and finalize action on trailing amendments.
(b) Department of Justice opinion on anti-trust issues. (T)
- C-3 Steller Sea Lion Issues
(a) Review draft response to BiOp remand.
(b) NAS SSL Report - Schedule discussion for future action.
(c) Report on Aleutian Island pollock closure analysis.
- C-4 Essential Fish Habitat
Receive progress report on EIS development, and review alternatives, objectives, and research plan - action as appropriate.
- C-5 Programmatic Groundfish SEIS
Receive progress report.
- C-6 BS/AI Pacific Cod Allocation
Initial review of Amendment 77 (allocations among fixed gear components).

(6 hrs)

(8 hrs)

(4 hrs)

(4 hrs)

(2 hrs)

(4 hrs)

- C-7 IR/IU (8 hrs)
(a) Review proposal for Trailing Amendment A (multi-species H&G co-ops), and associated allocation issues.
(b) Initial review of Trailing Amendment C (minimum retention standards).
(c) Final review of Trailing Amendment D (5% exemption).
(d) Discussion of relationship of Amendment A & C.
- C-8 Observer Program (2 hrs)
Review timeline and analytical outline for restructuring observer program.
- C-9 Halibut Subsistence (2 hrs)
(a) Final action on Ninilchik inclusion.
(b) Report on other potentially eligible communities.
- C-10 CDQ Program (2 hrs)
Final action on 'other species' exemption.

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

- D-1 Groundfish Issues (8 hrs)
(a) Discuss future actions resulting from F40 Report.
(b) Receive progress report on rockfish/non-target species management.
(c) Review status of TAC-setting amendment package. (T)
(d) Review request(s) for Experimental Fishing Permits (halibut donation and salmon excluder device). (T)
(e) Recommend VIP rates for latter half of 2003.
(f) SSC comments on National Standards 1 guidelines.
(g) Review research priorities.
- D-2 Staff Tasking (2 hrs)
Review tasking and committees and provide direction to staff.
- D-3 Other Business (1 hr)

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

F. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Total Agenda Hours: 57 hours

Sunday Mar 30	SSC King Salmon Room	AP Dillingham/Katmai Room	Council Aleutian Room
Monday, Mar 31	8:00am C-3 SSL C-4 EFH	8:00am C-1 GOA Rationalization	
	1:00pm C-5 PGSEIS C-6 BSAI Cod Allocation	1:00pm C-2 Crab Rationalization	
Tuesday, Apr 1	8:00am C-1 GOA Rationalization C-7 IRIU	8:00am C-2 Continued	1:00pm Council/Board Joint Protocol Committee Meeting
Enforcement Committee 6:30 pm - AP Room	1:00pm C-8 Observer Program D-1 Groundfish Issues	1:00pm C-3 SSL	
Wednesday, Apr 2	8:00am D-1 Continued	8:00am C-4 EFH	8:00am Call to Order B Reports C-1 GOA Rationalization
	1:00pm D-1 Continued	1:00pm C-5 PGSEIS C-6 BSAI Cod Allocation	1:00pm C-1 Continued
Thursday, Apr 3	8:00am Continue as necessary	8:00am C-6 Continued C-7 IRIU	8:00am C-2 Crab Rationalization
		1:00pm C-7 Continued C-8 Observer Program	1:00pm C-2 Continued
Friday, Apr 4		8:00am C-9 Halibut Subsistence C-10 CDQ Program	8:00am C-3 SSL
		1:00pm D-1 Groundfish Issues	1:00pm C-4 EFH
Saturday, Apr 5		8:00am D-2 Staff Tasking	8:00am C-5 PGSEIS C-6 BSAI Cod Allocation
		1:00pm Continue if necessary	1:00pm C-6 Continued C-7 IRIU
Sunday, Apr 6			8:00am C-7 Continued
			1:00pm C-7 Continued C-10 CDQ Program
Monday, Apr 7			8:00am C-8 Observer Program C-9 Halibut Subsistence
			1:00pm D-2 Staff Tasking D-1 Groundfish Issues
Tuesday, Apr 8			8:00am D-1 Continued
			1:00pm Continue if necessary
NOTE: The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. All meetings are open to the public with the exception of Council Executive Sessions.			